

In response to the Office Action dated March 14, 2001 (Paper No. 19),
please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please ~~cancel~~ Claims 8, 9 and 23-28, without prejudice or disclaimer of the
subject matter presented therein.

Please amend Claims 2, 10 and 11 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of
these claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

p1
2. (Three Times Amended) An isolated DNA encoding a protein
comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2.

Sub 13
10. (Three Times Amended) A diagnostic method for detecting an IgA
nephropathy in a patient, comprising:
selecting an oligonucleotide comprising 15 mer portion of the
nucleotide sequence of DNA selected from the group consisting of DNA encoding a
protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, DNA
comprising the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, and DNA which
hybridizes with the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 under stringent
conditions;
selecting an oligonucleotide comprising a 15 mer portion of a
nucleotide sequence complementary to DNA selected from the group consisting of DNA

encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2,
DNA comprising the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, and DNA which
hybridizes with the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 under stringent
conditions;

using said oligonucleotides in a reverse-transcription-polymerase
chain reaction to detect mRNA corresponding to the nucleotide sequence represented by
SEQ ID NO:1; and

determining an IgA in said patient based on a result of said reverse-
transcription-polymerase chain reaction.

11. (Three Time Amended) A diagnostic method for detecting an IgA
nephropathy in a patient, comprising:

selecting an oligonucleotide comprising a 15 mer portion of a
nucleotide sequence complementary to DNA selected from the group consisting of DNA
encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2,
DNA comprising the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, and DNA which
hybridizes with the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 under stringent
conditions;

using said oligonucleotide in a Northern blot to detect mRNA
corresponding to the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1; and

determining an IgA nephropathy in said patient based on a result of
said Northern blot.